

MATERNAL & CHILD HEALTH
EPIDEMIOLOGY
NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SENIOR SERVICES

Population Perinatal Risk Index for New Jersey Municipalities

Prepared by
Charles E Denk, PhD
MCH Epidemiology Program, NJDHSS
June 9, 2008

Background

Historically the Department of Health and Senior Services has provided state funding to improve perinatal public health services in communities with the worst birth outcomes. Such efforts require a method for ranking municipalities across an array of indicators.

In 1985, the *New Jersey Infant Mortality Reduction Initiative* was launched to reduce infant mortality by reducing low birth weight and very low birth weight births, increasing the early utilization of prenatal care, and reducing the number of adolescent pregnancies. Services supported under this initiative have included grants for comprehensive prenatal care to high risk mothers at six perinatal centers; a statewide telephone hotline for prenatal and WIC referrals; increased community-based outreach and education services; and an extensive public media education and awareness campaign.

The original needs assessment included 63 municipalities with population over 30,000. These communities were rated on a score that combined fetal and infant mortality, low birthweight, poverty and teen births in a weighted sum. In 2002 the MCH Epidemiology Program conducted an updated needs assessment using a *population risk scoring* methodology.

The new approach capitalizes on three observations: [1] New Jersey communities exhibit a diverse array of demographic profiles; [2] demographic risk factors have strong effects on birth outcomes; and [3] because the adverse outcomes we track tend to have the same risk factors, municipalities tend to be equally “at risk” for all those outcomes. Thus municipalities with similar composition with regard to race, education, etc. will have similar values on such varied measures as perinatal death rates, low birth weight, and teen pregnancy.

The population risk scoring methodology increases the validity and stability of community assessments. Our outcomes of primary interest—infant death, fetal demise, low birth weight—are rare events, subject to considerable random fluctuation even in samples of moderate size. The population risk approach yields more stable estimates of risk for small area analysis, because it is less sensitive to random fluctuations in these rare events.

Methods

For the current update, all births, fetal deaths and infant deaths recorded for New Jersey residents by the Office of Vital Statistics from 1999 to 2003 were included in our analysis. We analyzed 146 municipalities with 1,000 or more births in that five year period. See the appendix for cases and indicators available.

The *population risk scoring* procedure starts with the selection of primary indicators:

- low birth weight
- infant mortality
- perinatal (fetal+neonatal) mortality
- late prenatal care
- births to teens.

We use logistic regression to isolate the population component from these five indicators. The procedure includes four steps:

1. A separate regression equation for each birth outcome estimates the effect of race, Hispanic origin, foreign birthplace of mother, parity, mother's age, marital status and education for all births statewide.
2. Each equation generates expected probabilities for individual birth outcomes.
3. Averaging those probabilities yields the municipality's *expected rate* for each outcome, five *population risk components*.
4. To combine the five risk components, we used principal components factor analysis to obtain a weighted, standardized composite score.

Assessment of Results

Exhibit 1 presents the municipal-level correlations of the primary outcomes (plus preterm birth, for interest) with the population risk components (step 3). The correlations ranged from 0.61 to 0.95. Lower correlations would be expected between the rarer mortality events and other outcomes.

Exhibit 2 presents the correlations among the individual risk model components, illustrating the principle that the risk factors have parallel effects on all outcomes.

A single-factor principal components model fits the community variation very well. As shown in Exhibit 3, each expected rate contributes about equally to the composite that we call the *population risk index*.

Summary of Findings

Scores for the *population risk index* and primary outcome indicators are presented in Table 1. The index is tabulated for all 146 municipalities, sorted from highest to lowest overall risk.

Twenty-four municipalities have scores greater than 1.0, which would be the 83rd percentile of risk in a theoretical normal distribution. These municipalities represent eleven of New Jersey's 21 counties, and include all eleven cities designated as target sites under the Infant Mortality Reduction Initiative. The twenty-four had an average fetal-neonatal death rate of 1.9%, and an average of 9.5% low birthweight infants (born less than 2,500g), 58% and 48% above the statewide averages, respectively.

Exhibit 1: Correlation of Population Risk Components with Outcome Indicators, N = 146

| | | outcome indicators | | | | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|-----------------|---------------|------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| | | fetal+neonatal death | low birthweight | preterm birth | infant mortality | teen birth ratio | late prenatal care |
| population risk components | fetal+neonatal death | 0.72 | 0.89 | 0.84 | 0.67 | 0.81 | 0.83 |
| | low birthweight | 0.73 | 0.93 | 0.86 | 0.69 | 0.85 | 0.89 |
| | infant mortality | 0.74 | 0.92 | 0.86 | 0.71 | 0.90 | 0.89 |
| | late prenatal care | 0.65 | 0.83 | 0.79 | 0.66 | 0.93 | 0.95 |
| | teen birth ratio | 0.61 | 0.77 | 0.73 | 0.66 | 1.00 | 0.90 |
| | population risk score | 0.72 | 0.90 | 0.85 | 0.70 | 0.93 | 0.93 |

Exhibit 2: Correlation of Population Risk Components, N = 146

| | fetal+neonatal death | low birthweight | infant mortality | late prenatal care | teen birth ratio |
|-----------------------|----------------------|-----------------|------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| low birthweight | 0.95 | | | | |
| infant mortality | 0.97 | 0.97 | | | |
| late prenatal care | 0.85 | 0.92 | 0.91 | | |
| teen birth ratio | 0.81 | 0.85 | 0.89 | 0.93 | |
| population risk score | 0.95 | 0.98 | 0.99 | 0.96 | 0.93 |

Exhibit 3: Factor Analysis for Population Risk Assessments

| Predicted Risk Item | Scoring Weight |
|---|----------------|
| Infant Mortality Rate | .214 |
| Perinatal (fetal + neonatal) Mortality Rate | .206 |
| Rate of Low Birth Weight (<2,500 grams) | .211 |
| Proportion of Late Prenatal Care | .207 |
| Teenage Birth Ratio | .202 |

Appendix: Data Sources and Measures

Official birth certificate, fetal death certificate and linked birth-infant death files produced by the Center for Health Statistics were analyzed. A total of 542,572 live births, 4,314 fetal deaths and 3,670 infant deaths to New Jersey residents from 1999 to 2003 were included for our analysis.

Definition of Outcome/MCH Indicator Variables

- Infant Mortality Rate: Number of deaths per every 100 infants during their first 12 months of age.
- Neonatal Mortality: Number of deaths per every 100 live births during the first 27 days after birth.
- Post Neonatal Mortality: Number of deaths per every 100 live births between 28-365 days after birth.
- Perinatal Mortality: Fetal deaths (20 or more weeks of gestation) plus infant deaths (0-27 days after birth) per every 100 neonates (20 or more weeks of gestation to 27 days after birth).
- Fetal Mortality Rate: Fetal deaths with 20 or more weeks of gestation per every 100 still births or live births.
- Low Birth Weight: Births with birthweight of less than 2500 grams.
- Teen birth: Births to women aged 15 to 17 years.
- First Trimester Prenatal care: Deliveries with prenatal care that started during the first three months of pregnancy.

**Table 1. Population Perinatal Risk Index and Related Outcome Measures
(Based on births 1999-2003)**

| Vital Statistics | County | Municipality | Total Births | Population Perinatal Risk Index Value | Fetal+ Neonatal (0-27 days) Death Rate | Low Birth Weight (<2500g) | Preterm Birth (<37 wks Gestation) | Infant Mortality Rate | PNC Not in 1st Trimester | Births to Mothers <20 Years Old |
|------------------|------------|----------------------|--------------|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 0417 | CAMDEN | Camden City | 8,595 | 3.55 | 2.1% | 11.1% | 12.9% | 1.6% | 44.6% | 25.6% |
| 0724 | ESSEX | East Orange City | 5,845 | 2.78 | 2.5% | 13.5% | 14.7% | 1.5% | 41.6% | 14.3% |
| 1306 | MONMOUTH | Asbury Park City | 1,984 | 2.61 | 1.8% | 10.8% | 13.6% | 1.2% | 33.9% | 17.4% |
| 0736 | ESSEX | Irvington Township | 5,393 | 2.59 | 2.8% | 12.7% | 15.1% | 1.3% | 41.5% | 11.6% |
| 1155 | MERCER | Trenton City | 8,087 | 2.54 | 2.0% | 10.3% | 12.3% | 1.1% | 35.9% | 18.3% |
| 0756 | ESSEX | Newark City | 24,200 | 2.53 | 2.2% | 11.6% | 13.9% | 1.1% | 43.3% | 16.0% |
| 0379 | BURLINGTON | Willingboro Township | 1,755 | 2.37 | 1.3% | 10.1% | 10.6% | 0.7% | 35.8% | 14.9% |
| 0172 | ATLANTIC | Pleasantville City | 1,441 | 2.32 | 2.3% | 9.5% | 9.7% | 1.0% | 43.5% | 20.8% |
| 0605 | CUMBERLAND | Bridgeton City | 2,571 | 2.20 | 1.7% | 9.5% | 10.5% | 1.2% | 38.2% | 23.5% |
| 2048 | UNION | Plainfield City | 4,289 | 2.13 | 2.0% | 9.5% | 10.8% | 0.9% | 45.7% | 14.0% |
| 0108 | ATLANTIC | Atlantic City | 3,794 | 2.02 | 2.0% | 10.1% | 10.6% | 1.2% | 49.1% | 17.4% |
| 0768 | ESSEX | Orange City | 3,007 | 1.87 | 2.3% | 10.4% | 12.5% | 0.6% | 35.2% | 10.5% |
| 1242 | MIDDLESEX | New Brunswick City | 4,952 | 1.83 | 1.4% | 7.8% | 11.1% | 0.7% | 31.1% | 16.6% |
| 2056 | UNION | Roselle Borough | 1,486 | 1.54 | 2.4% | 10.5% | 11.3% | 1.1% | 30.5% | 11.5% |
| 0930 | HUDSON | Jersey City | 17,658 | 1.40 | 1.8% | 9.4% | 11.5% | 1.0% | 28.8% | 11.5% |
| 1640 | PASSAIC | Paterson City | 14,488 | 1.38 | 1.2% | 8.9% | 11.2% | 0.7% | 36.7% | 15.4% |
| 0455 | CAMDEN | Pennsauken Township | 1,988 | 1.35 | 2.0% | 8.2% | 10.4% | 1.3% | 31.0% | 14.3% |
| 0445 | CAMDEN | Lindenwold Borough | 1,413 | 1.23 | 1.4% | 9.2% | 10.0% | 1.2% | 31.9% | 11.7% |
| 2024 | UNION | Hillside Township | 1,374 | 1.23 | 2.9% | 10.4% | 11.3% | 1.2% | 26.3% | 7.7% |
| 0349 | BURLINGTON | Mount Holly Township | 1,125 | 1.18 | 1.0% | 6.1% | 8.4% | 0.4% | 27.5% | 15.6% |
| 0655 | CUMBERLAND | Millville City | 2,210 | 1.17 | 1.8% | 7.1% | 7.9% | 0.8% | 28.6% | 16.9% |
| 2012 | UNION | Elizabeth City | 10,669 | 1.10 | 1.6% | 8.1% | 9.3% | 0.6% | 38.0% | 11.7% |
| 0361 | BURLINGTON | Pemberton Township | 1,607 | 1.07 | 1.1% | 6.8% | 8.3% | 0.4% | 28.1% | 15.2% |
| 0680 | CUMBERLAND | Vineland City | 3,759 | 1.07 | 1.8% | 7.4% | 8.8% | 1.3% | 26.9% | 17.3% |
| 1348 | MONMOUTH | Long Branch City | 2,602 | 0.99 | 1.2% | 6.9% | 9.3% | 0.7% | 20.1% | 12.7% |
| 1364 | MONMOUTH | Neptune Township | 1,705 | 0.98 | 2.1% | 7.8% | 11.6% | 0.8% | 17.7% | 11.0% |
| 1635 | PASSAIC | Passaic City | 7,528 | 0.96 | 1.2% | 6.3% | 8.5% | 0.8% | 37.4% | 14.3% |
| 0222 | BERGEN | Englewood City | 1,630 | 0.86 | 1.2% | 5.8% | 7.0% | 0.6% | 16.5% | 6.0% |
| 1248 | MIDDLESEX | Perth Amboy City | 4,197 | 0.83 | 1.9% | 6.8% | 8.1% | 1.2% | 40.3% | 15.0% |
| 0824 | GLOUCESTER | Glassboro Borough | 1,080 | 0.80 | 1.7% | 8.2% | 10.0% | 0.8% | 27.9% | 12.4% |
| 2052 | UNION | Rahway City | 1,681 | 0.64 | 1.7% | 6.4% | 8.3% | 0.9% | 23.2% | 7.3% |
| 2032 | UNION | Linden City | 2,336 | 0.61 | 2.4% | 7.9% | 9.8% | 1.2% | 23.9% | 7.2% |
| 0473 | CAMDEN | Winslow Township | 2,629 | 0.52 | 1.5% | 6.7% | 8.0% | 1.0% | 19.4% | 8.3% |
| 0950 | HUDSON | Union City | 5,251 | 0.45 | 1.1% | 5.5% | 7.5% | 0.7% | 28.9% | 10.9% |
| 0234 | BERGEN | Hackensack City | 3,153 | 0.42 | 1.7% | 7.5% | 9.4% | 1.0% | 24.8% | 6.2% |

**Table 1. Population Perinatal Risk Index and Related Outcome Measures
(Based on births 1999-2003)**

| Vital Statistics | | | | Population Perinatal Risk Index | Fetal+ Neonatal (0-27 days) Death Rate | Low Birth Weight (<2500g) | Preterm Birth (<37 wks Gestation) | Infant Mortality Rate | PNC Not in 1st Trimester | Births to Mothers <20 Years Old |
|------------------|------------|--------------------------|--------------|---------------------------------|--|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Geo Code | County | Municipality | Total Births | Value | | | | | | |
| 0960 | HUDSON | West New York Town | 3,287 | 0.38 | 1.2% | 5.2% | 8.0% | 0.6% | 26.5% | 9.8% |
| 1372 | MONMOUTH | Red Bank Borough | 1,194 | 0.37 | 0.9% | 4.7% | 6.6% | 0.6% | 21.2% | 9.1% |
| 1418 | MORRIS | Dover Town | 1,781 | 0.31 | 1.2% | 4.7% | 6.8% | 0.7% | 19.6% | 7.8% |
| 0144 | ATLANTIC | Hamilton Township | 1,431 | 0.27 | 0.8% | 5.8% | 6.9% | 0.8% | 23.8% | 9.2% |
| 1332 | MONMOUTH | Freehold Borough | 1,592 | 0.26 | 0.9% | 5.0% | 7.6% | 0.4% | 22.6% | 8.0% |
| 1206 | MIDDLESEX | Carteret Borough | 1,283 | 0.25 | 1.6% | 7.5% | 8.2% | 1.3% | 27.9% | 7.6% |
| 1816 | SOMERSET | Bound Brook Borough | 1,011 | 0.22 | 1.4% | 5.7% | 8.3% | 0.6% | 26.3% | 6.3% |
| 1860 | SOMERSET | North Plainfield Borough | 1,801 | 0.21 | 0.9% | 6.1% | 7.3% | 0.3% | 28.3% | 5.9% |
| 0905 | HUDSON | Bayonne City | 3,501 | 0.20 | 1.1% | 6.5% | 8.1% | 0.6% | 14.7% | 6.9% |
| 0148 | ATLANTIC | Hammonton Town | 1,094 | 0.19 | 1.3% | 5.4% | 9.1% | 0.8% | 23.3% | 8.8% |
| 1110 | MERCER | Ewing Township | 1,386 | 0.14 | 1.3% | 7.0% | 8.7% | 0.9% | 15.2% | 4.8% |
| 0752 | ESSEX | Montclair Township | 2,172 | 0.12 | 1.7% | 6.0% | 7.7% | 0.7% | 15.3% | 3.6% |
| 1876 | SOMERSET | Somerville Borough | 1,067 | 0.10 | 1.0% | 5.5% | 8.3% | 1.0% | 22.2% | 6.2% |
| 1272 | MIDDLESEX | South River Borough | 1,041 | 0.09 | 1.2% | 6.2% | 8.2% | 0.4% | 15.0% | 5.9% |
| 1836 | SOMERSET | Franklin Township | 4,287 | 0.05 | 1.1% | 6.6% | 9.0% | 0.6% | 11.4% | 3.9% |
| 0230 | BERGEN | Garfield City | 1,965 | 0.04 | 0.9% | 5.5% | 7.4% | 0.5% | 26.0% | 6.8% |
| 2076 | UNION | Union Township | 2,946 | 0.01 | 2.0% | 6.8% | 8.7% | 0.9% | 14.7% | 3.7% |
| 0940 | HUDSON | North Bergen Township | 3,696 | 0.01 | 0.9% | 5.2% | 7.3% | 0.5% | 21.3% | 6.5% |
| 1446 | MORRIS | Morristown Town | 1,958 | -0.05 | 0.6% | 4.7% | 7.3% | 0.6% | 16.8% | 5.1% |
| 0925 | HUDSON | Hoboken City | 1,532 | -0.08 | 0.7% | 5.1% | 7.7% | 0.3% | 13.9% | 8.0% |
| 0286 | BERGEN | Teaneck Township | 2,081 | -0.10 | 1.5% | 5.5% | 7.0% | 0.5% | 13.7% | 3.5% |
| 0935 | HUDSON | Kearny Town | 2,288 | -0.11 | 1.2% | 6.1% | 7.4% | 0.7% | 20.1% | 5.6% |
| 0844 | GLOUCESTER | Monroe Township | 1,753 | -0.12 | 1.5% | 6.2% | 9.0% | 1.0% | 20.0% | 6.9% |
| 0744 | ESSEX | Maplewood Township | 1,594 | -0.13 | 0.9% | 6.0% | 7.5% | 0.4% | 15.1% | 3.0% |
| 0313 | BURLINGTON | Burlington Township | 1,315 | -0.14 | 1.6% | 5.9% | 7.4% | 0.6% | 14.1% | 4.3% |
| 1245 | MIDDLESEX | North Brunswick Township | 2,646 | -0.14 | 1.0% | 6.4% | 9.1% | 0.3% | 12.3% | 3.0% |
| 0431 | CAMDEN | Gloucester Township | 2,438 | -0.15 | 1.6% | 6.5% | 8.0% | 0.8% | 17.7% | 6.6% |
| 0128 | ATLANTIC | Egg Harbor Township | 2,160 | -0.16 | 0.8% | 5.9% | 6.8% | 0.5% | 21.6% | 6.6% |
| 0704 | ESSEX | Belleville Township | 2,322 | -0.17 | 1.2% | 6.3% | 8.0% | 0.3% | 17.7% | 4.8% |
| 0140 | ATLANTIC | Galloway Township | 1,410 | -0.19 | 1.6% | 4.2% | 6.6% | 0.5% | 17.0% | 6.1% |
| 1251 | MIDDLESEX | Piscataway Township | 3,166 | -0.20 | 1.2% | 5.9% | 7.6% | 0.6% | 13.4% | 3.3% |
| 1610 | PASSAIC | Clifton City | 4,675 | -0.20 | 0.8% | 5.4% | 7.7% | 0.5% | 21.3% | 4.9% |
| 1530 | OCEAN | Lakewood Township | 9,896 | -0.20 | 0.7% | 4.0% | 4.6% | 0.3% | 26.6% | 5.4% |
| 1322 | MONMOUTH | Eatontown Borough | 1,019 | -0.20 | 1.1% | 5.7% | 7.6% | 0.7% | 13.3% | 4.1% |
| 0708 | ESSEX | Bloomfield Township | 2,855 | -0.21 | 1.4% | 6.6% | 8.2% | 0.9% | 15.2% | 4.0% |

**Table 1. Population Perinatal Risk Index and Related Outcome Measures
(Based on births 1999-2003)**

| Vital Statistics | | | | Population Perinatal Risk Index Value | Fetal+ Neonatal (0-27 days) Death Rate | Low Birth Weight (<2500g) | Preterm Birth (<37 wks Gestation) | Infant Mortality Rate | PNC Not in 1st Trimester | Births to Mothers <20 Years Old |
|------------------|------------|-------------------------------|--------------|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Geo Code | County | Municipality | Total Births | | | | | | | |
| 0204 | BERGEN | Bergenfield Borough | 1,391 | -0.21 | 0.7% | 5.9% | 8.2% | 0.5% | 13.2% | 3.4% |
| 0209 | BERGEN | Cliffside Park Borough | 1,170 | -0.26 | 1.0% | 5.1% | 7.4% | 0.6% | 18.7% | 2.9% |
| 0266 | BERGEN | Palisades Park Borough | 1,123 | -0.26 | 1.2% | 4.2% | 5.1% | 0.6% | 17.0% | 2.2% |
| 0245 | BERGEN | Lodi Borough | 1,534 | -0.26 | 1.1% | 6.8% | 8.5% | 0.7% | 17.3% | 3.0% |
| 0808 | GLOUCESTER | Deptford Township | 1,044 | -0.27 | 1.0% | 6.3% | 9.2% | 0.4% | 19.8% | 5.9% |
| 0341 | BURLINGTON | Maple Shade Township | 1,085 | -0.27 | 0.6% | 5.4% | 7.0% | 0.5% | 18.5% | 5.1% |
| 0788 | ESSEX | West Orange Township | 3,016 | -0.27 | 1.3% | 6.2% | 8.5% | 0.7% | 14.4% | 2.8% |
| 1356 | MONMOUTH | Matawan Borough | 1,148 | -0.32 | 0.9% | 5.7% | 8.1% | 0.5% | 12.8% | 4.4% |
| 1115 | MERCER | Hamilton Township | 4,486 | -0.33 | 1.4% | 5.9% | 8.5% | 0.6% | 15.3% | 4.8% |
| 1260 | MIDDLESEX | Sayreville Borough | 2,858 | -0.39 | 1.2% | 6.0% | 8.0% | 0.6% | 13.3% | 2.4% |
| 1269 | MIDDLESEX | South Plainfield Borough | 1,305 | -0.42 | 1.2% | 5.0% | 6.9% | 0.8% | 14.5% | 2.8% |
| 1510 | OCEAN | Berkeley Township | 1,171 | -0.43 | 1.4% | 5.3% | 6.6% | 0.5% | 11.1% | 7.2% |
| 1278 | MIDDLESEX | Woodbridge Township | 5,990 | -0.47 | 1.0% | 6.6% | 7.7% | 0.5% | 14.9% | 2.6% |
| 0217 | BERGEN | Elmwood Park Borough | 1,050 | -0.47 | 0.8% | 5.1% | 7.3% | 0.3% | 14.3% | 3.1% |
| 1135 | MERCER | Lawrence Township | 1,664 | -0.49 | 1.1% | 5.0% | 6.3% | 0.5% | 11.8% | 2.0% |
| 1366 | MONMOUTH | Ocean Township | 1,543 | -0.51 | 0.8% | 6.9% | 8.9% | 0.3% | 10.2% | 2.5% |
| 0469 | CAMDEN | Voorhees Township | 1,269 | -0.52 | 1.7% | 6.4% | 7.2% | 0.8% | 15.6% | 3.1% |
| 0425 | CAMDEN | Cherry Hill Township | 2,758 | -0.52 | 1.5% | 4.8% | 5.8% | 0.9% | 14.8% | 2.5% |
| 1514 | OCEAN | Dover Township | 4,936 | -0.52 | 0.9% | 5.4% | 7.6% | 0.4% | 11.8% | 4.7% |
| 1227 | MIDDLESEX | Old Bridge Township | 2,763 | -0.53 | 1.1% | 5.2% | 8.2% | 0.4% | 10.7% | 2.7% |
| 1257 | MIDDLESEX | Edison Township | 6,995 | -0.54 | 0.9% | 6.1% | 7.7% | 0.4% | 12.8% | 2.1% |
| 1105 | MERCER | East Windsor Township | 1,649 | -0.55 | 1.6% | 5.4% | 6.2% | 0.3% | 9.9% | 2.9% |
| 0840 | GLOUCESTER | Mantua Township | 1,307 | -0.56 | 1.5% | 4.9% | 7.1% | 0.7% | 15.2% | 4.0% |
| 0227 | BERGEN | Fort Lee Borough | 1,582 | -0.57 | 0.6% | 4.0% | 5.4% | 0.2% | 13.5% | 0.9% |
| 0351 | BURLINGTON | Mount Laurel Township | 2,049 | -0.59 | 1.5% | 5.1% | 6.1% | 0.6% | 11.8% | 2.7% |
| 0872 | GLOUCESTER | Washington Township | 1,765 | -0.62 | 1.3% | 4.9% | 6.6% | 0.7% | 13.5% | 3.6% |
| 1562 | OCEAN | Stafford Township | 1,275 | -0.66 | 1.2% | 4.7% | 6.4% | 0.7% | 10.1% | 5.2% |
| 1266 | MIDDLESEX | South Brunswick Township | 2,684 | -0.67 | 0.9% | 5.4% | 7.1% | 0.4% | 7.1% | 1.6% |
| 1524 | OCEAN | Jackson Township | 3,014 | -0.68 | 0.7% | 4.8% | 8.2% | 0.3% | 9.7% | 3.5% |
| 1512 | OCEAN | Brick Township | 4,378 | -0.68 | 0.8% | 5.2% | 7.5% | 0.4% | 9.9% | 3.8% |
| 1254 | MIDDLESEX | Plainsboro Township | 1,480 | -0.69 | 0.5% | 5.8% | 6.5% | 0.3% | 7.2% | 0.6% |
| 1526 | OCEAN | Lacey Township | 1,353 | -0.69 | 0.7% | 5.1% | 7.4% | 0.6% | 8.6% | 4.4% |
| 1458 | MORRIS | Parsippany-Troy Hills Townshi | 2,790 | -0.70 | 1.0% | 5.1% | 6.8% | 0.5% | 8.1% | 1.3% |
| 1215 | MIDDLESEX | East Brunswick Township | 2,510 | -0.71 | 1.0% | 4.9% | 7.9% | 0.6% | 6.4% | 1.3% |
| 1988 | SUSSEX | Vernon Township | 1,113 | -0.71 | 1.1% | 4.1% | 6.1% | 0.7% | 8.9% | 2.3% |

**Table 1. Population Perinatal Risk Index and Related Outcome Measures
(Based on births 1999-2003)**

| Vital Statistics | | | | Population Perinatal Risk Index | Fetal+ Neonatal (0-27 days) Death Rate | Low Birth Weight (<2500g) | Preterm Birth (<37 wks Gestation) | Infant Mortality Rate | PNC Not in 1st Trimester | Births to Mothers <20 Years Old |
|------------------|------------|------------------------|--------------|---------------------------------|--|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Geo Code | County | Municipality | Total Births | Value | | | | | | |
| 1675 | PASSAIC | West Milford Township | 1,613 | -0.75 | 1.4% | 5.0% | 7.4% | 0.6% | 5.3% | 2.4% |
| 1333 | MONMOUTH | Freehold Township | 1,576 | -0.77 | 0.7% | 3.5% | 6.9% | 0.4% | 9.6% | 2.2% |
| 1338 | MONMOUTH | Howell Township | 2,977 | -0.77 | 0.9% | 4.4% | 7.3% | 0.4% | 8.3% | 2.6% |
| 1454 | MORRIS | Mount Olive Township | 1,967 | -0.78 | 0.7% | 4.6% | 6.5% | 0.7% | 8.5% | 1.3% |
| 0764 | ESSEX | Nutley Township | 1,406 | -0.78 | 0.6% | 5.0% | 8.8% | 0.5% | 9.0% | 1.4% |
| 1370 | MONMOUTH | Hazlet Township | 1,111 | -0.80 | 1.4% | 4.8% | 7.6% | 0.9% | 8.4% | 2.3% |
| 1844 | SOMERSET | Hillsborough Township | 2,635 | -0.80 | 0.8% | 4.5% | 7.0% | 0.4% | 7.8% | 1.6% |
| 1620 | PASSAIC | Hawthorne Borough | 1,121 | -0.80 | 1.2% | 4.5% | 7.8% | 0.5% | 10.2% | 2.1% |
| 1472 | MORRIS | Roxbury Township | 1,551 | -0.81 | 1.0% | 4.2% | 6.3% | 0.5% | 6.1% | 1.8% |
| 2064 | UNION | Scotch Plains Township | 1,562 | -0.82 | 1.2% | 4.9% | 6.9% | 0.4% | 6.6% | 1.2% |
| 0225 | BERGEN | Fair Lawn Borough | 1,400 | -0.82 | 1.0% | 4.1% | 6.5% | 0.5% | 9.9% | 0.7% |
| 1550 | OCEAN | Point Pleasant Borough | 1,071 | -0.83 | 1.0% | 5.2% | 8.0% | 0.6% | 8.3% | 2.6% |
| 0267 | BERGEN | Paramus Borough | 1,009 | -0.83 | 1.0% | 4.5% | 6.4% | 0.3% | 8.7% | 1.2% |
| 0327 | BURLINGTON | Evesham Township | 2,551 | -0.83 | 1.3% | 5.1% | 5.4% | 0.7% | 11.8% | 1.8% |
| 1670 | PASSAIC | Wayne Township | 2,770 | -0.83 | 0.8% | 4.7% | 6.6% | 0.5% | 7.7% | 0.8% |
| 1428 | MORRIS | Jefferson Township | 1,223 | -0.84 | 1.3% | 4.8% | 6.3% | 0.8% | 6.1% | 1.3% |
| 1824 | SOMERSET | Bridgewater Township | 2,977 | -0.84 | 0.8% | 3.9% | 6.1% | 0.3% | 7.8% | 1.5% |
| 0247 | BERGEN | Mahwah Township | 1,422 | -0.87 | 1.0% | 4.6% | 6.6% | 0.4% | 6.9% | 1.4% |
| 1239 | MIDDLESEX | Monroe Township | 1,002 | -0.88 | 0.9% | 3.4% | 7.4% | 0.8% | 4.3% | 1.5% |
| 1165 | MERCER | West Windsor Township | 1,071 | -0.88 | 0.6% | 3.0% | 4.5% | 0.5% | 4.5% | 1.2% |
| 0343 | BURLINGTON | Medford Township | 1,092 | -0.89 | 1.1% | 3.6% | 6.2% | 0.8% | 10.0% | 1.7% |
| 2072 | UNION | Summit City | 1,684 | -0.90 | 0.8% | 3.7% | 6.6% | 0.7% | 4.4% | 1.0% |
| 1358 | MONMOUTH | Middletown Township | 3,428 | -0.90 | 1.1% | 3.8% | 6.5% | 0.4% | 6.4% | 1.7% |
| 1464 | MORRIS | Randolph Township | 1,724 | -0.90 | 0.7% | 4.9% | 6.2% | 0.5% | 4.5% | 1.2% |
| 1434 | MORRIS | Madison Borough | 1,030 | -0.91 | 0.1% | 3.1% | 5.4% | 0.2% | 5.0% | 1.2% |
| 1350 | MONMOUTH | Manalapan Township | 1,451 | -0.91 | 1.4% | 5.9% | 7.6% | 0.4% | 5.9% | 1.1% |
| 1470 | MORRIS | Rockaway Township | 1,114 | -0.91 | 1.4% | 5.2% | 6.5% | 0.2% | 5.0% | 1.3% |
| 1442 | MORRIS | Montville Township | 1,328 | -0.91 | 0.8% | 5.6% | 6.9% | 0.6% | 8.0% | 1.0% |
| 1354 | MONMOUTH | Marlboro Township | 1,914 | -0.94 | 0.9% | 4.0% | 5.1% | 0.2% | 6.1% | 0.5% |
| 1856 | SOMERSET | Montgomery Township | 1,120 | -0.95 | 0.9% | 3.6% | 6.4% | 0.4% | 3.9% | 0.6% |
| 1474 | MORRIS | Washington Township | 1,003 | -0.95 | 0.6% | 3.4% | 4.0% | 0.1% | 4.2% | 0.8% |
| 1063 | HUNTERDON | Raritan Township | 1,192 | -0.95 | 0.3% | 2.6% | 4.0% | 0.1% | 9.1% | 1.4% |
| 1972 | SUSSEX | Sparta Township | 1,186 | -0.96 | 0.6% | 3.7% | 6.1% | 0.3% | 6.8% | 1.3% |
| 1392 | MONMOUTH | Wall Township | 1,174 | -0.97 | 0.5% | 4.5% | 8.6% | 0.3% | 5.4% | 1.6% |
| 0273 | BERGEN | Ridgewood Village | 1,534 | -0.97 | 0.7% | 3.1% | 5.3% | 0.1% | 6.3% | 0.7% |

**Table 1. Population Perinatal Risk Index and Related Outcome Measures
(Based on births 1999-2003)**

| Vital Statistics | | | Total Births | Population Perinatal Risk Index | Fetal+ Neonatal (0-27 days) Death Rate | Low Birth Weight (<2500g) | Preterm Birth (<37 wks Gestation) | Infant Mortality Rate | PNC Not in 1st Trimester | Births to Mothers <20 Years Old |
|------------------|----------|---------------------|--------------|---------------------------------|--|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Geo Code | County | Municipality | | Value | | | | | | |
| 1416 | MORRIS | Denville Township | 1,085 | -1.00 | 0.9% | 4.0% | 5.2% | 0.3% | 4.5% | 0.7% |
| 2080 | UNION | Westfield Town | 2,015 | -1.01 | 1.0% | 3.6% | 5.3% | 0.4% | 4.5% | 0.8% |
| 2008 | UNION | Cranford Township | 1,419 | -1.01 | 0.9% | 4.2% | 6.5% | 0.3% | 5.0% | 0.9% |
| 1808 | SOMERSET | Bernards Township | 1,739 | -1.03 | 0.8% | 3.2% | 5.4% | 0.3% | 4.1% | 0.3% |
| 0740 | ESSEX | Livingston Township | 1,585 | -1.07 | 0.8% | 4.4% | 5.8% | 0.1% | 5.5% | 0.3% |
| 0748 | ESSEX | Millburn Township | 1,090 | -1.08 | 0.7% | 4.2% | 6.7% | 0.2% | 6.5% | 0.1% |